HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 65 By Tidwell

A RESOLUTION to urge the Department of Education and the State Board of Education to standardize and simplify the reporting of student, school and system performance data by reviewing the format and content of the annual report card on education.

WHEREAS, every local education agency in Tennessee seeks to provide the best education instruction for every student in its system; and

WHEREAS, the accountability testing program operated by the Department of Education is a key tool in the educational development of a student and is utilized to identify areas of strengths and weaknesses, as well as to plan programs for improvement; and

WHEREAS, with the enactment of P.L. 107-110 (No Child Left Behind), adequate yearly progress is the controlling criteria for determining federal compliance; and

WHEREAS, the public, in general, and students, parents, and educators, specifically, are presented multiple sources of performance data with different formats and inconsistent subjective indicators at different times during the school year; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to provide performance data to the public in a readily understandable single format; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that this General Assembly expresses its unwavering support for the Department of Education and the State Board of Education to work together to review the annual Report Card on Education focusing primarily on establishing a uniform release date and developing an understandable format with consistent objective indicators for public distribution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we hereby urge the Department of Education and the State Board of Education to review policies concerning the release of value added data so that such data will only be distributed to the general public, students, parents and educators as appropriate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the commissioner of the Department of Education and the executive director of the State Board of Education.

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